




The Annual Report of the
- Health and Sanitary -
Condition of the Amble
Urban District, Dec. 1914.





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THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF AMBLE
FOR THE YEAR 1914.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE AMBLE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,—

In the year 1914 we had an increased rainfall in the Spring, a dry Summer, whilst the latter months of the year were wet.

You will notice in the report that there is a decrease in the death rate and birth rate, and a slight increase in the infantile mortality. Living as we do on the North-east coast we are fortunate in not having to record a higher death rate, as we might easily have suffered loss from hostile war ships or enemy aircraft. The war has had a depressing effect on the township. There has been naturally more or less interference with the coal trade, the staple industry of the district. Newburgh colliery was closed down in the autumn, and the town suffered in consequence. A few soldiers have been quartered in the town since the outbreak of war, and every assistance was given to them by your sanitary officials. No cases of infectious disease occurred amongst them.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Amble is a seaport town, situated in the angle between the estuary of the river Coquet and the North Sea. The urban district is flat and low-lying, and has few trees. It is there-

fore exposed, especially to easterly winds. The town is built of stone from local quarries. The population, 4,883 at the Census of 1911, is estimated at 5,000 in the middle of 1914.

Most of the men are employed as miners at the Collieries of Newburgh and Broomhill, which are distant $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 miles respectively from Amble.

There are a few fishermen.

AMOUNT OF POOR LAW RELIEF.

The total amount of outdoor relief expended in the Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1914, was £210.

BIRTH RATE.

The number of births registered during the year was 126—60 boys and 66 girls—a decrease of 20 from the previous year.

The birth rate for the year was 25.2 per 1,000. Of these births 5 were illegitimate, a decrease of 3 from 1913, and 4.7 per cent. of the births registered.

MORTALITY.

During the year 59 deaths were registered in the urban area. Inward transferable deaths (viz. : deaths of residents which occurred in other administrative areas and which were transferred to Amble) numbered 4, outward transferable deaths 1. The total net deaths belonging to the district were therefore 62. They occurred throughout the year as follows :

January	2	May	7	September ...	1
February ...	2	June	7	October	3
March	10	July	6	November ...	3
April	9	August ...	6	December ...	6

Of these deaths 33 were of males and 29 of females. The death rate, corrected for differences of sex and age constitution was 12.16 per 1000.

Deaths due to violence were exceptionally numerous in 1914, and numbered nine. If these be deducted the corrected death rate for the year was 10.39 per 1000.

ANALYSIS OF DEATH RATE.

The following details will be found in Table III. appended to this report :—

Under 1 year, 13 deaths ; 1 and under 2 years, 3 ; 5 and under 15 years, 2 ; 15 and under 25 years, 4 ; 25 and under 45 years, 6 ; 45 and under 65 years, 12 ; 65 years and upwards, 22 deaths.

The deaths from zymotic disease numbered 4 (2 over last year), giving a death rate of 0.8 per 1000. In 1913 Amble had the fourth lowest zymotic death rate among Urban districts in Northumberland.

Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) caused 1 death, a decrease of 3 deaths from 1913, and a death rate of 0.2 per 1000. There were no deaths from other forms of tuberculosis. Cancer claimed 6 deaths (1 more than in 1913), a death rate of 1.2 per 1000. Heart disease caused 5 deaths, whilst respiratory diseases had a death rate of 1.4 per 1000.

INFANT MORTALITY (under 1 year).

The infantile deaths under 1 year numbered 13, being an increase of 3 as compared with 1913, and giving a death rate of 103.17 per 1000 births registered. This is less than the infant mortality rate of England and Wales for 1913, which was 109.00 per 1000 births. In 1913 Amble had the third lowest infant death rate among Urban districts in Northumberland.

Of these 13 deaths, 7 were due to congenital debility, 2 to pneumonia, and 1 each to Measles, Convulsions, Bronchitis, and Premature Birth. For the third year in succession we have had no deaths from epidemic diarrhoea, a tribute to the effective sanitary condition of the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 42 cases of infectious disease were notified, a decrease of 38 from 1913. They were as follows :—

Diphtheria	9	Pulmonary	
Scarlet Fever.....	26	Tuberculosis...	4
Ophthalmia		Other Forms of	
neonatorum.....	1	Tuberculosis...	1

There were no fatal cases of diphtheria during 1914. Five cases required antioxin. The houses in which the cases occurred were all in a sanitary condition. Two cases were in January, 1 in February, 2 in April, 2 in June, and 2 in November. In each month in which 2 cases occurred they were in opposite ends of the town. The children were strictly isolated, and the disease did not become epidemic. Out of 21 Boroughs and Urban Councils in Northumberland Amble was 7th lowest last year. Scarlet Fever continued to be epidemic in Amble, although 43 fewer cases occurred than in 1913. As usual most of the cases occurred in children of school age, viz., 65.38 per cent. Nineteen cases occurred in January, February, and March, the remainder were scattered throughout the year. Amble was about midway (12th) between the highest and lowest rates recorded among the Boroughs and Urban Districts in Northumberland, with an attack rate of 5.2 per 1000. The epidemic was of a mild nature, only one death occurring. The cases occurred throughout the whole district, and the milk supply to the infected houses came from one or other of all the dairies supplying the town. No cases occurred in the neighbourhood of the dairies, and no cases could be attributed to the milk. All the houses in which infectious disease occurred were disinfected.

Influenza was epidemic during January, April, November and December.

Measles was present in March, April and May.

There were a few cases of chickenpox throughout the year.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

There was a sufficiency of houses for the needs of the population during 1914. Owing to the closure of Newburgh Colliery in the Autumn, and also to the war, there was an unsettled feeling amongst the inhabitants of the district, and at the end of the year there were 11 empty houses with the prospect of still more becoming vacant. Nine new houses were built during the year, four with 3 rooms, two with 4 rooms, and three 5 rooms. It will be noted in the Sanitary Inspector's report that in a census which was taken of 800 houses, the average number of inhabitants per house was as follows :—One-room dwellings, 2.78 ; two-room ditto, 4.01 ; three-room ditto, 4.10 ; and four-room ditto, 4.21.

Under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 (Article 5), 204 houses were inspected. Forty were found defective, with a total of 145 defects; eighty-two informal notices were served and 123 defects remedied. Four statutory notices were served by the Local Authority and were complied with.

During the year 1,446 visits of inspection were made. The character and sufficiency of houses for the working class has been satisfactory. One case of overcrowding (two families in one tenement) was remedied.

There is plenty of open space around the houses, and all are well-lighted.

New houses are supervised during their erection by the Surveyor, who sees that in the town modern sanitary conveniences are included.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply during 1914 has been good in quality and abundant in quantity. It is a constant supply, and at no time was there a shortage, although at the end of the summer the level at Morwick reservoir was lower than usual. For 19 houses, new connections to the mains were made. The analysis of the water, with the analyst's report is as follows:—

	1913.	1909.
dried at 212°F.	24.500	22,960
Chlorine existing as chlorides ...	1.539	2,336
Ammonia	0.012	0.010
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.002	0.003
Nitrogen existing as nitrates	0.013	0.003
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes at 80° F.	not determined.	ditto.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 minutes at 80° F.	0.014	0.012
Lead and other poisonous metals...	none.	none.
Hardness before boiling	not determined.	ditto.
Hardness after boiling	ditto.	ditto.
Appearance in two foot tube	brownish turbidity	
Smell when heated to 100° F.	none.	none.
Microscopical examination of sediment	satisfactory	satisfactory

This water will be rather hard, thought not to an objectionable extent. Organically it is a fairly pure water, and it is in our opinion suitable for drinking and general domestic use. The sample contained in suspension nearly a tenth of a grain, per gallon, of iron hydroxide, and it is chiefly, if not entirely, this to which the turbidity of the water is due."

THE MILK SUPPLY.

The milk was of good quality and quantity, and the town has been well supplied throughout the year. The supply is derived from dairies, some without, the remainder within the urban district. There were four dairies, four cowsheds, and one milk shop within this area. Four dairymen and one purveyor of milk were on the register. Sixty-nine inspections were made.

All the cowsheds have impervious floors, were well drained, lighted and ventilated. They were kept clean and whitewashed regularly, and all had a good water supply.

OTHER FOODS.

The general food supply has been good. The premises where food was prepared and sold were found in a sanitary condition. No prosecutions took place under the Food and Drugs Act. No unsound meat was discovered.

BAKEHOUSES AND MINERAL WATER MANUFACTORIES.

There are two mineral water manufactories and one bake house in the town. On inspection they have always been found in a clean and healthy condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There were five slaughter house in the town at the end of 1914. Three of these are registered and two licensed. They are kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

The ground for the proposed public slaughter houses has been purchased by the Urban Council, but the scheme is being held over to a more suitable time.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The water carriage system of sewerage in the town discharges its sewage by a main outfall sewer into the harbour, and by a small outfall sewer into the tidal gut. It has been satisfactory during the year. Some small defects have been remedied. The drains for one house which were insanitary, were relaid and new drains were laid to six houses.

NUISANCES.

During the year 145 sanitary defects were found, for which 82 informal notices and 4 statutory notices were served. As a result 123 nuisances were abated. A tabular list will be found in the appendix.

REFUSE DISPOSAL AND SCAVENGING.

Thirty-six privies were in the town and eleven in the country at the end of 1914. Six privy middens were abolished and replaced by water closets, two earth closets were also replaced by water closets. Nine new houses were provided with water closets. There was therefore in the district at the end of the year :—

Fresh water closets	351
Ash closets	440
Privy middens	47

No change has occurred in the number of houses reported in 1912 as not having separate sanitary conveniences. The scavenging has been carried out as usual by the Council's employees in a very satisfactory manner. The excretal and dry refuse is removed bi-weekly.

RIVERS POLLUTION.

The insanitary condition of the Amble Gut, a tidal gut emptying into the river Coquet, which has been pointed out in previous reports, still remains unabated.

LODGINGS HOUSES.

One lodging house is registered in the district. It has

been found clean and tidy at each inspection. No cases of infectious disease occurred in it.

SCHOOLS.

There are five elementary schools in the urban district. All are in a sanitary condition with an efficient supply of water.

One large and one infant school were closed in 1914 at the beginning of an outbreak of measles, with satisfactory results.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

1.—*Work of Sanitary Officials:—*

(a) The report of the Surveyor for the year 1914 is appended.

(b) The report of the Inspector of Nuisances for the year 1914 is appended.

No changes occurred in the Sanitary staff as a result of the war.

2.—*Hospital Administration:—*

The hospital accommodation in Amble consists of one isolation hospital situated on the Links. It is an iron building and has 4 beds. It was erected for the reception of small pox patients. The hospital was placed at the disposal of the military authorities and one soldier (a contact with Scarlet Fever) was isolated there for the requisite number of days.

The hospital was in good condition, and was regularly inspected and aired.

No hospital exists for other infectious diseases.

3.—*Administration of Local or General Adoptive Acts:—*

The following Acts have been adopted by the Council:—

Private Streets Works Act.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts I. and III.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

No local Acts have been adopted.

4.—*Chemical and Bacteriological Work :—*

In cases of infectious disease, where necessary, preparations are examined for the Council, at the Durham University College of Medicine Laboratory, Newcastle-on-Tyne. This opportunity is afforded to all the doctors in the district.

The following bacteriological examinations were made in 1914 :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	9	15	24
Tuberculosis ...	1	3	4
Enteric Fever ...	—	2	2
	—	—	—
	10	20	30

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1914 one death (male) occurred from tuberculosis giving a death rate of 0.2 per 1000. This compares favourably with the death rate of 1.4 per 1000 in 1913. The cause of death was Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Six cases of tuberculosis were notified, 5 being pulmonary and 1 other form. All the notifications referred to males.

Visits were made on receipt of primary notification and 101 subsequent visits were made. In three of the cases other members of the house were examined for unrecognised cases of tuberculosis. Disinfectants were supplied free by the Council to such cases as desire them, and after any death from phthisis, or the removal of the infected person, the house was disinfected by the Council's officials.

PORT SANITATION.

The vessels arriving at Warkworth Harbour were regularly inspected during the year. The arrivals were much fewer than in previous years owing to the war. In all, 188 ships were inspected, and were found in a sanitary condition. No cases of infectious disease were reported.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

Thirteen factories and thirty-seven workshops were on the register in 1914. There were no work places and no out-

workers. No accidents were reported. Nineteen children and young persons were examined during the year, and none were rejected.

One hundred and twelve inspections were made, and the various premises were found in a sanitary condition. No written notices were required and no prosecutions were instituted. No nuisances required abatement, and there were no offences under the Factory and Workshops Act.

The following are the registered workshops :—

Bakehouses	... ..	1
Dressmaking and Millinery	...	6
Tailoring	... ..	3
Trades, such as Blacksmith		
Plumbers, Joiners, etc.	...	27
		<hr/>
		37

SUMMARY.

I am glad to be able to report so favourably on the health and sanitation of the urban district. There has been a notable decrease in the death rate from 13.33 per 1000 in 1913 to 12.16 per 1000 in 1914. In fact if the deaths due to violence be deducted, and they should not, as a matter of fact, be allowed to count, seeing that so many are of non-residents, the death rate would be 10.39 per 1000.

The infant death rate is somewhat up from the previous year, but is still under the average for England and Wales. There were few cases of epidemic diarrhoea in 1914, and no deaths. The amount of diarrhoea in a town is looked on as its sanitary index, and so we have reason to pride ourselves on the excellent sanitary condition of Amble.

I would recommend to the Council :—

- (1) The provision of leaflets pointing out the necessary precautions which should be used by consumptives to prevent the infection of persons associated with them.
- (2) The building of a small mortuary convenient to the harbour. This is very necessary in view of the numerous accidents which occur there.
- (3) The purification of the Gut stream.
- (4) The provision of a small accessory reservoir to facilitate the cleansing of the main reservoir.

I take this opportunity of thanking you for your invariable courtesy to me during the year.

My thanks are due to Mr. Burton, your Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances for the valuable help he has always so willingly afforded me. I must also thank the County Medical Officer for his very kind assistance and advice throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES ANDERSON LOUGHRIDGE.

TABLE I

AMBLE DISTRICT

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each Year	BIRTHS			Total DEATHS Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths.		Nett DEATHS belonging to the District			
		Un-corrected Number	Net		Number	Rate	of Non-Residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	under 1 Year of Age		At all ages.	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	6000	152		25.3	55	9.1						
1910	6000	134		22.3	54	9.0						
1911	4883	150	150	30.71	60	12.28	2	6	12	80	64	13.1
1912	5000	141	142	28.4	61	12.2	—	5	13	91.5	66	13.2
1913	5000	146	146	29.2	60	12.0	—	8	10	68.4	68	13.3
1914	5000	126	126	25.2	59	11.8	1	4	13	103.1	62	12.4

Total population at all ages, 4,883

Number of inhabited houses 1075

Average number of persons per house, 4.542

Area of District in acres (land and inland water), 1220.

At Census
of 1911.

TABLE II

AMBLE DISTRICT*Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.*

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL
	At all ages	At ages—Years						
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 & uprds	
Diphtheria	9			8		1		
Scarlet Fever	26		4	17	4	1		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1						
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	5				3	2		
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1					1		
Totals	42	1	4	25	7	5	nil.	

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.—Small Pox Isolation Hospital, Ambleside Links.

TABLE III

AMBLE DISTRICT

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

Causes of Death.		DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								
All causes	Certified Uncertified	All ages	under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
		62	13	3		2	4	6	12	22
Measles	...	2	1	1						
Scarlet Fever	...	1								
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	1				1		1		
Cancer, malignant disease	...	6							2	4
Meningitis	...	1							1	
Organic Heart Disease	...	5							2	3
Bronchitis	...	1	1							
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	6	2	1						3
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	1		1						
Alcoholism	...	1						1		1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	1								
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	8	8							
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	8				1	3	1	3	1
Suicide	...	1								
Other Defined Diseases	...	19	1				1	3	4	10
Totals	...	62	13	3		2	4	6	12	22

TABLE IV

AMBLE DISTRICT

Infantile Mortality During the Year 1914.

Cause of Death.	under 1 week		1-2 weeks.		2-3 weeks.		3-4 weeks.		Total under 4 weeks.		1-3 months		3-6 months		6-9 months		9-12 months		Total deaths under 1 year	
	All Causes	Certified... Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles
Convulsions
Bronchitis
Pneumonia (all forms)
Premature Birth
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus
Totals	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	3	3	...	...	4	...	13	...	...

Net Births in year : Legitimate 121
 Illegitimate 5

Net Deaths in year : Legitimate Infants 12
 Illegitimate Infants 1

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF AMBLE
FOR THE YEAR 1914.

To J. A. LOUGHRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to present my Report of the Sanitary Administration of the Amble Urban District for the year 1914, together with the usual tabular statements.

HOUSING.

Nine new houses were completed and occupied during the year ; four with three rooms, two with four rooms, and three with five rooms. Each of these houses were provided with water closets, and three houses were provided with bath-rooms.

During the year a census was taken of 800 houses, and the average number of persons per house living in 93 houses of one room each was found to be 2.78, in 222 houses of two rooms each the average was 4.01, in 250 houses of three rooms each the average was 4.10, and in 129 houses of four rooms each the average was 4.21.

Of the above 800 houses the number of tenements with more than two occupants per room was 139, and the proportionate rate per cent. to the population in private families was 24.3 ; the figures for the whole town at the census of 1911 was 32.6.

At the end of the year 11 houses were unoccupied in consequence of the closing of Newburgh Colliery, and the subsequent lack of employment in the district.

Two hundred and four houses were inspected during the year, and notices served with respect to forty of these houses for the remedy of structural defects.

Considerable improvement was effected to the house No. 7, Church Street, where an old stable at the rear of the yard was demolished, and the outbuildings were set back to the position previously occupied by the stable; thus adding an area of over 100 sup. ft. to the yard space, and giving more light on the ground floor tenement. The paper was stripped from the walls of the first floor tenement, portions of the walls replastered and the house cleansed.

The whole area adjoining this house was further improved by the Council laying cement paving to the passageway to the rear of this and other property, and providing a street lamp for lighting the passageway at night.

One house in Leazes Street, which was insufficiently lighted, was provided with a larger window.

The remainder of the improvements, which were more of the nature of general repairs, are set out in the tabular statement.

In the course of inspections two families were found to be overcrowding one tenement, they were unable to get separate houses in the town through being undesirable tenants, and were obliged to move out of the district.

During the latter part of the year a few families of soldiers have moved into smaller houses so as to reduce expenditure and avoid living above their only source of income, Separation Allowance.

NOTICES.

Eighty-two informal notices were served during the year, seventy-two of which were complied with.

Four statutory notices for the conversion of privies to water closets were served and complied with.

NUISANCES.

One hundred and twenty-three nuisances and structural defects were remedied during the year, particulars of which are hereto appended.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

Six privy middens were abolished, for each of which water closets were substituted, and in one case the whole of the drains, which were of nine inch unsocketed and unglazed earthenware pipes, were taken up, and an entirely new system of drainage with chambers and ventilating shaft was constructed.

Two water closets were substituted for ash closets, and in each case where water closets have taken the place of ash closets or privies new drains have been laid.

Including the new houses erected the conveniences in the town are as under :—

			Water Closets.	Ash Closets.	Privies in town.	Privies outside town.
1913	...	...	334	442	42	11
1914	...	...	351	440	36	11

The number of houses without separate closet accommodation is the same as last year, viz. : four hundred and twenty-four.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

No progress has been made with respect to the provision of public slaughter houses ; the Local Government Board having withheld their sanction to borrow money for this purpose owing to their desire for an abattoir instead of the proposed slaughter houses.

The Local Government Board have, however, sanctioned the purchase of the Albert House Estate on which it is proposed to erect the slaughter houses.

Owing to the present crisis and the increased cost of building materials the Council have decided to allow matters to remain as they are until the crisis is over.

There are five slaughter houses in the town, three of these are registered, and two are licensed for twelve months.

One hundred and eighty-seven inspections were made, and but for an occasional neglect in the removal of offal the houses have been well kept.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The number of Dairies and Cowsheds situate within the District is four, and sixty-nine inspections of these were made.

Each cowshed and dairy is provided with a supply of water from the town mains, and the impervious floors are well cleansed, and the walls periodically limewashed.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

One hundred and twelve inspections were made of the thirteen factories and thirty-seven workshops in the district.

An additional water closet has been provided at the mineral water factory in Bridge-street, thus providing separate accommodation for persons of each sex employed therein, and an ash closet has been provided at the Gas Works, where previously no sanitary accommodation was provided.

No new factories or workshops have been opened, and the existing workshops and factories have been kept in a cleanly condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is only one common lodging house in the district, and it has accommodation for thirty-eight persons, but owing to the lack of employment for casual labourers there has seldom been more than twenty persons in the house at one time.

Forty-one inspections were made, and the house has been conducted in a satisfactory manner.

DISINFECTION.

Thirty-five houses were disinfected during the year owing to twenty-seven cases of scarlet fever; one case of tuberculosis and seven cases of diphtheria.

Formalin lamps were used in all cases, and the infected bedding from one house was destroyed by burning.

As a preventive measure the C.E. Infant Schools were fumigated.

A suspect from the Territorial Drill Hall was isolated in the Council's Hospital on the links until all danger from infection was past, and the room he had occupied at the Drill Hall was disinfected.

The military stationed in the town have been supplied with disinfectants from time to time as required, free of charge.

SHIPPING.

The number of vessels inspected during the year was one hundred and eighty-eight, eighty of which were foreign vessels from foreign ports; thirty-two were foreign vessels from British ports; thirty-three were British vessels from foreign ports; and forty-three were British vessels from British ports.

No cases of infectious disease were found among the crews, and the vessels, principally Norwegian and Swedish, were kept in a satisfactory condition.

The arrivals at the port were considerably less than in previous years owing to the war.

WATER SUPPLY.

Even though the summer has been exceptionally free from rainfall, no shortage of water has been experienced.

During Autumn the standage in the reservoir at Morwick fell considerably lower than in previous years, and it became imperative to prevent all unnecessary waste of water so as to avoid a possible shortage.

An augmentation of the supply is contemplated by the Council during the forthcoming year.

Three standpipes in the streets of the town were abolished and connections made to the mains for nineteen houses. The only remaining standpipes in the town are in yards that are common to six or more houses.

SEWERS.

The sewerage system has worked quite satisfactorily during the year, and no flooding has been experienced during heavy rainstorms.

One manhole has been rebuilt and two others repaired, and two defective vent shafts have been remedied.

SCAVENGING.

This is carried out by the Council's workmen who make bi-weekly collections of all house refuse.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping on the braid about a quarter of a mile from the town, and precautions taken to prevent nuisances arising therefrom.

Another section has just been completed and sown with grass seeds, and in a short time will be covered with grass.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The fire brigade have only received one call during the year, but their services were not required.

The fire occurred in a first floor tenement in High Street, and was extinguished by the adjacent tenants by means of buckets of water. The damage was not extensive.

HIGHWAYS AND STREETS.

The paving of Byron Street, Back Lane and End Lane, was completed early in the year and new cement footpaths have been laid in Percy Street and Gibson Street during the year.

The carriageway of Gibson Street was coated with metal and tar grouted, and the carriageway of Percy Street was surfaced with macadam.

The highways have also received attention, and about 750 tons of road metal has been rolled in.

PUBLIC LIGHTING.

The whole of the town streets are lighted with Falcon Inverted Gas Lamps. During part of the year the lamps have not been lighted owing to military orders to that effect.

One additional lamp has been fixed, and the total number of lamps is now one hundred.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. BURTON.

Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.

1914

Tabular Statement as required by Article V.

Name of District. AMBLE (Urban).	No. of Dwelling Houses Inspected	No. of Dwelling Houses which on inspection, considered unfit for human habitation	No. of representations made to local authority with a view to closing orders being made	CLOSING ORDERS		No. of Dwellings in which defects remedied without closing orders being made	No. of Dwellings put into fit state for human habitation after closing orders made	GENERAL CHARACTER OF DEFECTS FOUND	REMARKS
				No of Orders made	No. of Houses vacated at end of each year in consequence				
	204	0	0	0	0	36	0	(As Under)	

WORK EFFECTED.

NATURE OF WORK EFFECTED	Delapidated Outbuildings Remodelled.	Repairs to Fireplaces and Woodwork.	Wood Floors Repaired and Relaid.	Walls Re-plastered	Roofs Repaired	Insufficient Lighting.	New Stairs Fixed	Totals
No. of Houses	3	10	5	7	18	1	2	46

1914 Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT. Population, 5000. W. Burton, Inspector.	HOUSING.							DRAINAGE.				Sanitary CONVEN- IENCES.		Systematic Inspections	Housing Inspections	Re-inspections	Dairies and Cowsheds	Slaughter Houses	Common Lodging House	Bakehouse	Other Workshops	Inspection of Ships	TOTAL\$	WORK EFFECTED.						
	Structural Defects	Overcrowding	Unfit for human habitation	Defective Spouting	Dampness	Paving of Yards.	Want of Ashbins	Various Nuisances	Foul	Untrapped or delapidated	Defective Gullies	Untrapped Waste Pipes	Structurally Defective											Foul	Privy Ashpits abolished	W.C.'s substituted	Ash Closets substituted	W.C.'s substituted for Ash Closets	Houses disinfected	Water laid on to Houses
NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE.															329	204	104	69	187	41	17	95	188	1234	6	6		2	35	19
NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYE-LAWS FOUND.	51	1		18	5	3	9	7	18	6	4	2	16	5										145						
NUMBER OF INFORMAL NOTICES BY THE INSPECTOR.																							82							
NUMBER OF DEFECTS, ETC., REMEDIED AFTER INFORMAL NOTICE.	46	1		16	2	1	6	7	17	5	4		13	5										123						
NUMBER OF STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY													4											4						
NUMBER OF DEFECTS, ETC., REMEDIED AFTER STATUTORY NOTICE.													4											4						

